

# REQUEST for CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

*Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,  
provided for continued examination of a utility or plant application  
filed on or after June 8, 1995.*

*See the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).*

|                        |                         |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Application Number     | 10/532,988              |
| Filing Date            | April 28, 2005          |
| First Named Inventor   | Hiromi EBARA et al.     |
| Group Art Unit         | Group Art Unit 2189     |
| Examiner Name          | Examiner Eric T. Loonan |
| Attorney Docket Number | 2005_0683A              |
| Confirmation No.       | 3027                    |

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See *Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice*, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114
  - a. ☒ Previously submitted:
    - i. ☒ Please enter and consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on July 23, 2008
    - ii. ☐ Please consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
    - iii. ☐ Other\_
  - b. ☐ Enclosed:
    - i. ☐ Amendment/Reply
    - ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
    - iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
    - iv. ☐ Other\_
2. Miscellaneous
  - a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required).
  - b. ☐ Other\_
3. Fees (The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.)
  - a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to the credit card account.
    - i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
    - ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and § 1.17)
    - iii. ☐ Other\_
  - b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ enclosed

## 4. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

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August 12, 2008

*The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency or to credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 23-0975, with the EXCEPTION of deficiencies in fees for multiple dependent claims in new applications.*